

**SCOPE OF DUTIES OF AN EMERGENCY MEDICAL
TECHNICIAN-PARAMEDIC AND A LICENSED PARAMEDIC****CHAPTER 1054**

H.B. No. 2020

AN ACT

relating to the scope of duties of an emergency medical technician-paramedic and a licensed paramedic.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 773, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 773.0496 to read as follows:

Sec. 773.0496. SCOPE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN-PARAMEDIC AND LICENSED PARAMEDIC DUTIES. (a) *In this section:*

(1) "Advanced life support" means health care provided to sustain life in an emergency, life-threatening situation. The term includes the initiation of intravenous therapy, endotracheal or esophageal intubation, electrical cardiac defibrillation or cardioversion, and drug therapy procedures.

(2) "Direct supervision" means supervision of an emergency medical technician-paramedic or licensed paramedic by a licensed physician who is present in the same area or an area adjacent to the area where an emergency medical technician-paramedic or licensed paramedic performs a procedure and who is immediately available to provide assistance and direction during the performance of the procedure.

(b) Notwithstanding other law, a person who is certified under this chapter as an emergency medical technician-paramedic or a licensed paramedic, is acting under the delegation and direct supervision of a licensed physician, and is authorized to provide advanced life support by a health care facility may in accordance with department rules provide advanced life support in the facility's emergency or urgent care clinical setting, including a hospital emergency room and a freestanding emergency medical care facility.

SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Act, the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission shall adopt any rules necessary to implement Section 773.0496, Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

Passed by the House on May 15, 2015: Yeas 130, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting; passed by the Senate on May 27, 2015: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Approved June 19, 2015.

Effective June 19, 2015.

**COMPENSATION AND LEAVE FOR CERTAIN PEACE
OFFICERS****CHAPTER 1055**

H.B. No. 2037

AN ACT

relating to compensation and leave for certain peace officers.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 402.009, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 402.009. **AUTHORITY TO EMPLOY AND COMMISSION PEACE OFFICERS.**
(a) The attorney general may employ and commission peace officers as investigators for the limited purpose of assisting the attorney general in carrying out the duties of that office relating to prosecution assistance and crime prevention.

(b) *The attorney general shall ensure that a commissioned peace officer employed as authorized under Subsection (a) is compensated according to Schedule C of the position classification salary schedule prescribed by the General Appropriations Act.*

SECTION 2. Section 659.301(5), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(5) "State employee" means an individual who:

(A) is a commissioned law enforcement officer of the Department of Public Safety, the Texas Facilities Commission, the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission, [or] the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, *or the attorney general*;

(B) is a commissioned security officer of the comptroller;

(C) is a law enforcement officer commissioned by the Parks and Wildlife Commission;

(D) is a commissioned peace officer of an institution of higher education;

(E) is an employee or official of the Board of Pardons and Paroles or the parole division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice if the employee or official has routine direct contact with inmates of any penal or correctional institution or with administratively released prisoners subject to the board's jurisdiction;

(F) has been certified to the Employees Retirement System of Texas under Section 815.505 as having begun employment as a law enforcement officer or custodial officer, unless the individual has been certified to the system as having ceased employment as a law enforcement officer or custodial officer; or

(G) before May 29, 1987, received hazardous duty pay based on the terms of any state law if the individual holds a position designated under that law as eligible for the pay.

SECTION 3. Section 661.918(a), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) This section applies to a peace officer under Article 2.12, Code of Criminal Procedure, who is commissioned as a law enforcement officer or agent, including a ranger, by:

(1) the Public Safety Commission and the director of the Department of Public Safety;

(2) the Parks and Wildlife Commission; [or]

(3) the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission; *or*

(4) *the attorney general.*

SECTION 4. (a) The classification officer in the office of the state auditor shall classify the position of commissioned peace officer employed as an investigator by the Office of the Attorney General as a Schedule C position under the Texas Position Classification Plan, 1961.

(b) The change made by the classification officer as required by this section applies beginning in the state fiscal biennium beginning September 1, 2015.

(c) This section expires September 1, 2017.

SECTION 5. Section 661.918(a), Government Code, as amended by this Act, applies only to an injury that occurs on or after the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 6. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

Passed by the House on April 16, 2015: Yeas 120, Nays 25, 2 present, not voting; the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 2037 on May 27, 2015: Yeas 136, Nays 5, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 25, 2015: Yeas 25, Nays 6.

Approved June 19, 2015.

Effective September 1, 2015.

**PROTECTION OF CERTAIN CHILDREN WHO MAY BE
SUBJECT TO CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT THROUGH THE
OPERATION OF THE CHILD SAFETY CHECK ALERT LIST
AND TRAINING FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS THE
CHILD SAFETY CHECK ALERT LIST**

CHAPTER 1056

H.B. No. 2053

AN ACT

relating to the protection of certain children who may be subject to child abuse or neglect through the operation of the child safety check alert list and training for law enforcement officers relating to the child safety check alert list.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 261.301, Family Code, is amended by adding Subsection (i) to read as follows:

(i) If at any time during an investigation of a report of child abuse or neglect to which the department has assigned the highest priority the department is unable to locate the child who is the subject of the report of abuse or neglect or the child's family, the department shall notify the Department of Public Safety that the location of the child and the child's family is unknown. If the Department of Public Safety locates the child and the child's family, the Department of Public Safety shall notify the department of the location of the child and the child's family.

SECTION 2. Section 261.3022, Family Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 261.3022. CHILD SAFETY CHECK ALERT LIST. (a) ~~The [Subject to the availability of funds, the]~~ Department of Public Safety of the State of Texas shall *maintain [create]* a child safety check alert list as part of the Texas Crime Information Center to help locate a child or the child's family for purposes of:

- (1) investigating a report of child abuse or neglect;
 - (2) providing protective services to a family receiving family-based support services;
- or
- (3) *providing protective services to the family of a child in the managing conservatorship of the department.*

(b) ~~If [the child safety check alert list is established and]~~ the department is unable to locate a child or the child's family for a purpose described by Subsection (a) after the department has attempted to locate the child for not more than 20 days, the department shall notify the Texas Department of Public Safety that the department is unable to locate the child or the child's family. The notice must include the information required by Subsections (c)(1)–(10).

~~(c) On receipt of the notice from the department, the Texas Department of Public Safety shall [purposes of investigating a report of child abuse or neglect, after the department has exhausted all means available to the department for locating the family, the department may seek assistance under this section from the appropriate county attorney, district attorney, or criminal district attorney with responsibility for representing the department as provided by Section 264.009.~~

~~[(c) If the department requests assistance, the county attorney, district attorney, or criminal district attorney, as applicable, may file an application with the court requesting the issuance of an ex parte order requiring the Texas Crime Information Center to place the members of the family the department is attempting to locate on a child safety check alert list. The application must include a summary of:~~